

Cellini Spring Necklace

Supplies

- 3.4 mm drops
(I used Miyuki Lt Tea Rose AB)
- 8/o seed beads
(I used Toho Matte Emerald AB)
- 11/o seed beads
(I used Toho Purple/Aqua Marbled Op)
- 15/o seed beads
(I used Miyuki Chartreuse TR MA)
- 3 Czech glass cup buttons



This evolved from a technique taught by Virginia Blakelock and Carol Perrenoud at the Mid-Atlantic Fiber Arts Conference several years ago. Virginia developed the stitch and named it in honor of Benvenuto Cellini, a 16th century Italian sculptor known for his rococo architectural columns.

The Cellini is essentially a circular gourd stitch executed with graduated sizes of beads.

It is typically worked with 4 different sizes/types of beads.

Changing the beads and their sequence will produce new, different and interesting effects.

Many thanks to Kim Rueth from Knot Just Beads who taught me how to make my first Cellini, and Carol Cypher who figured out how to make them without a step up! What follows below is a compilation of lots of wisdom!

Using the following as a guide:

A - small =11°

B - medium = 8°,

C - large =drops, pearls, daggers

D - extra small =15° or 11° delica

String the following sequence of beads:

2A, 2B, 2C, 2B, 2A, 3D

Pass the needle all the way through all beads again to form a circle; continue past tail through additional 3 beads and tie an overhand knot. Pass through 3 more beads; tie an overhand knot. Pass through 3 more beads, and tie one final overhand knot. Pass through all remaining beads; exit at 2nd B bead.

When you begin, it may help to slide your piece over a crochet hook, or other narrow rod to help hold its shape. You may even tape the tail temporarily onto the "holder" to provide extra stability.

Unless you wish to use your tail thread for attaching a clasp, you may burn it off at any time. I recommend waiting until you get past the first couple of rounds

Pick up a B bead, and pass through the third bead of the foundation circle. Pick up a bead and pass through the fifth bead of the foundation circle.

Continue adding 1 bead at a time, **remembering that in each case you are picking up the same bead that you are exiting.**

A sequence like this:

2A, 2B, 2C, 2B, 2A, 11D

Will create a more shell-like spiral (using key above)

A larger diameter spiral can be made as follows:

3A, 4B, 4C, 2D, 2E, 2D, 4C, 4B

Where A = 15/o, B = 11/o, C = 8/o, D = 6/o, E = drop, Magatama or dagger

